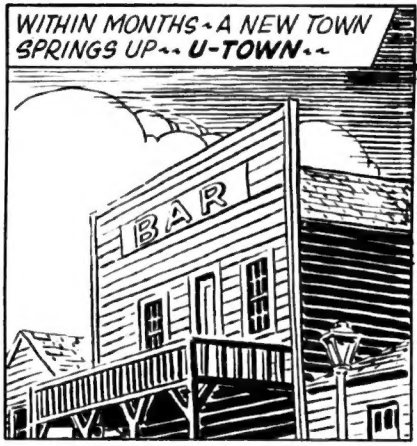
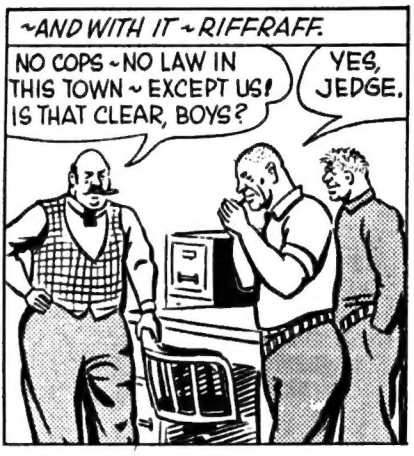
URANIUM!
AT THE EDGE OF THE BENGAL JUNGLE~A FIND!
TICK TICK TICK

THE NEWS SPREADS FAST~~
WILSON McCOY 2-27

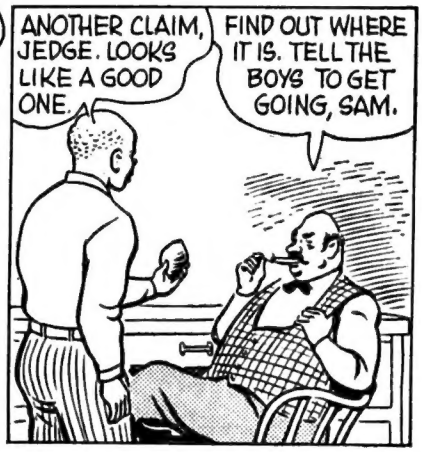

WITHIN MONTHS~A NEW TOWN SPRINGS UP~~ U-TOWN~~
BAR


~AND WITH IT~RIFFRAFF.
NO COPS~NO LAW IN THIS TOWN~EXCEPT US! IS THAT CLEAR, BOYS?
YES, JEDGE.

THIS IS IT! LISTEN TO THAT COUNTER! MUST BE URANIUM~AND PLENTY OF IT!
TICK TICK TICK

I'LL STAKE OUT MY CLAIM~THEN TAKE SOME SAMPLES TO THE ASSAYING OFFICE! BUT I'M SURE~THIS TIME!
WILSON McCOY 2-28

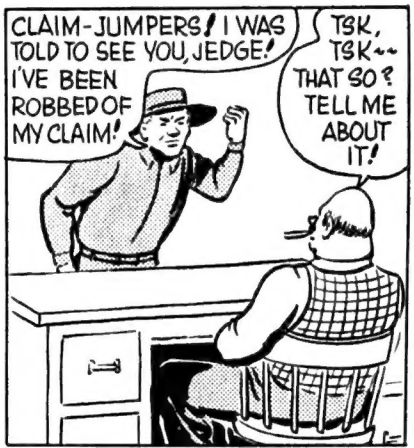
HMM~STAKED YOUR CLAIM PROPERLY, DID YOU? MIND WAITING A MINUTE?
I'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME~~ NOW!
ASSAYING OFFI

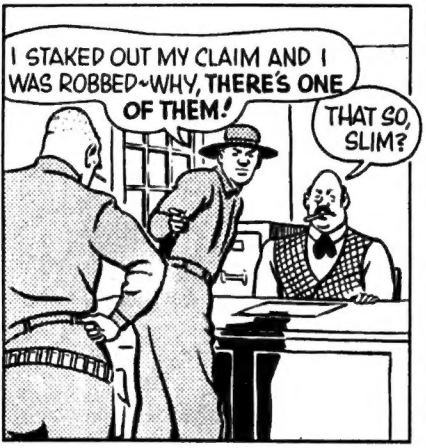

ANOTHER CLAIM, JEDGE. LOOKS LIKE A GOOD ONE.
FIND OUT WHERE IT IS. TELL THE BOYS TO GET GOING, SAM.

WILSON McCOY 2-29
I'VE GOT A REAL PAYING URANIUM CLAIM! AT LAST! WAIT'LL MOM AND DAD GET MY LETTER AT HOME!

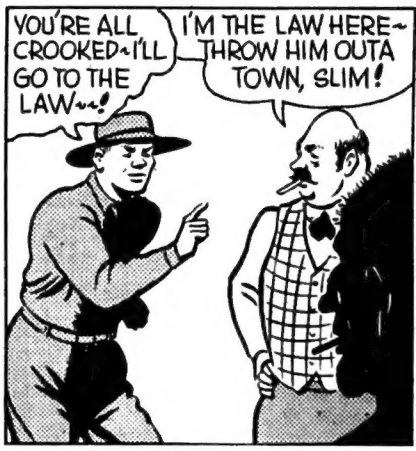
HEY~YOU'RE TRESPASSIN'ON OUR PROPERTY, BUD!
THIS IS MY CLAIM! I'VE STAKED IT OUT!

MY NAME'S ON THESE TAGS~SAY~THEY'VE BEEN CHANGED! I~I'M GOING TO THE LAW!
GOOD IDEA, BUD. GO.

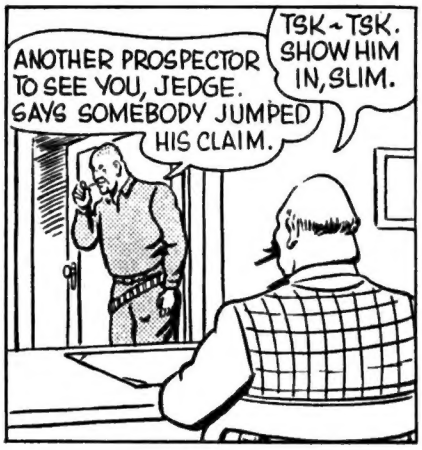

CLAIM-JUMPERS! I WAS TOLD TO SEE YOU, JEDGE! I'VE BEEN ROBBED OF MY CLAIM!
TSK, TSK~~ THAT SO? TELL ME ABOUT IT!


I STAKED OUT MY CLAIM AND I WAS ROBBED~WHY, THERE'S ONE OF THEM!
THAT SO, SLIM?

HE'S FIBBIN', JEDGE. WE FOUND IT FIRST.
YOUR WORD'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME, SLIM.


YOU'RE ALL CROOKED~I'LL GO TO THE LAW~~!
I'M THE LAW HERE~ THROW HIM OUTA TOWN, SLIM!

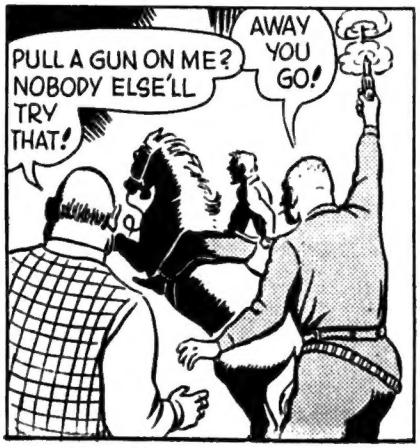
~AND DON'T COME BACK~OR I'LL AIM STRAIGHTER!
WILSON McCOY 3-1


ANOTHER PROSPECTOR TO SEE YOU, JEDGE. SAYS SOMEBODY JUMPED HIS CLAIM.
TSK~TSK. SHOW HIM IN, SLIM.

YOU'RE ALL CROOKS~ ALL BANDED TOGETHER!
SLIM!

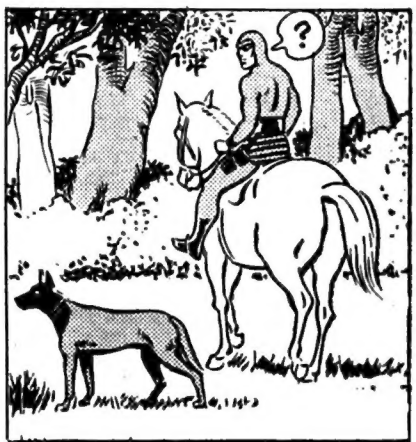
EASY~OLD MAN!
WILSON McCOY 3-2

YOU~ YOU~!
PULL A GUN ON ME? I'LL MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF YOU NOBODY'LL FORGET! TAKE HIM OUTSIDE!


PULL A GUN ON ME? NOBODY ELSE'LL TRY THAT!
AWAY YOU GO!

CAN'T KEEP GOING FOREVER~ GOTTA STOP SOME TIME~~ HEADING DEEPER INTO THE JUNGLE~

WILSON McCOY 3-3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WILSON McCOY 3-5
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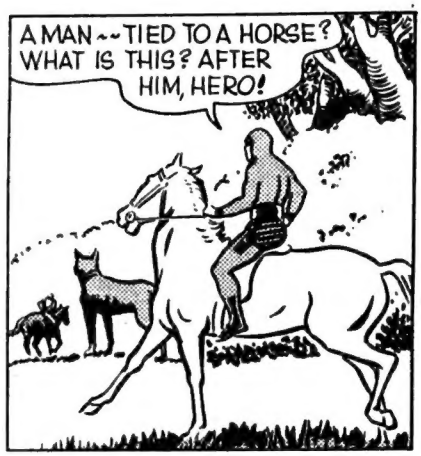
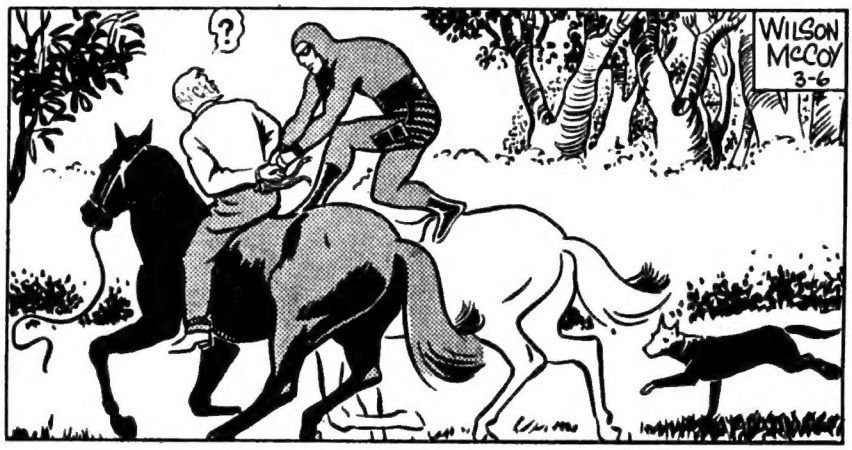

A MAN ~~ TIED TO A HORSE? WHAT IS THIS? AFTER HIM, HERO!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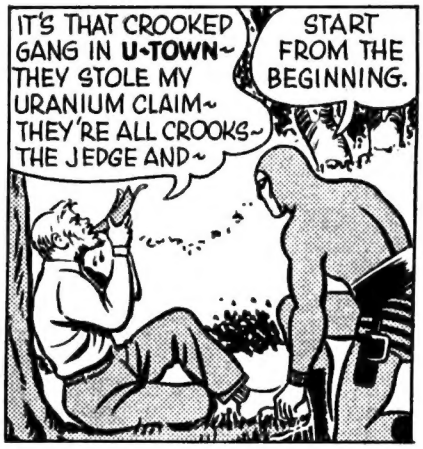
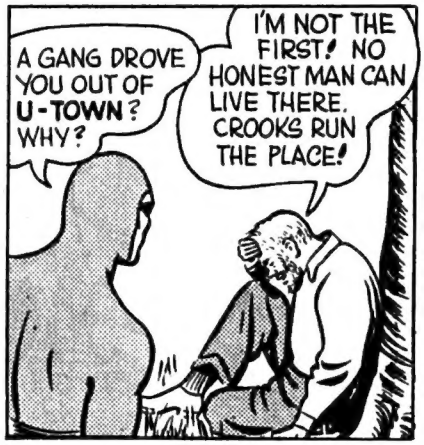
WILSON McCOY 3-6

WHY WERE YOU TIED ON THAT HORSE?
I-I~ WATER~ I'M~~ EXHAUSTED!

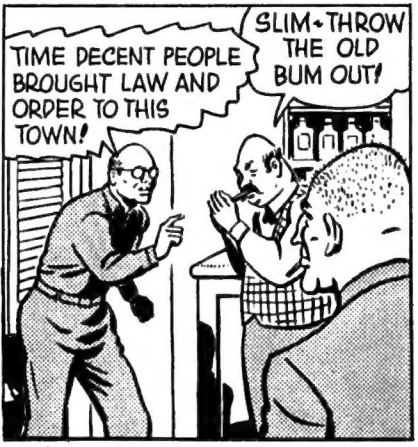

IT'S THAT CROOKED GANG IN U-TOWN~ THEY STOLE MY URANIUM CLAIM~ THEY'RE ALL CROOKS~ THE JEDGE AND~
START FROM THE BEGINNING.


A GANG DROVE YOU OUT OF U-TOWN? WHY?
I'M NOT THE FIRST! NO HONEST MAN CAN LIVE THERE. CROOKS RUN THE PLACE!

"I FOUND URANIUM~ SOMEBODY STOLE IT FROM ME~~"
THIS IS MY CLAIM!
GO ARGUE WITH THE JEDGE.

"SOMEBODY WHO CALLS HIMSELF 'JEDGE' IS THE LAW THERE"
YOU'RE ALL CROOKS!
THROW HIM OUT OF TOWN!

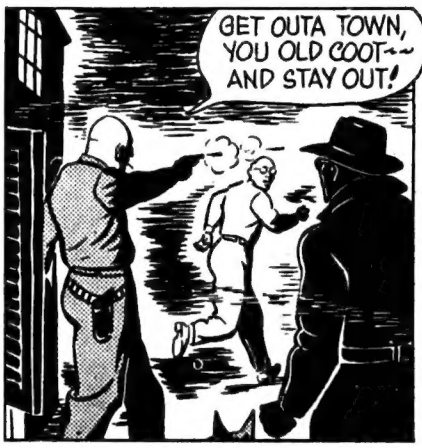
I CAN'T PROVE IT~ BUT I THINK HE'S IN WITH THE CLAIM-JUMPERS, TOO!
HMM ~ I'LL VISIT U-TOWN. IT SOUNDS INTERESTING!
WILSON McCOY 3-7

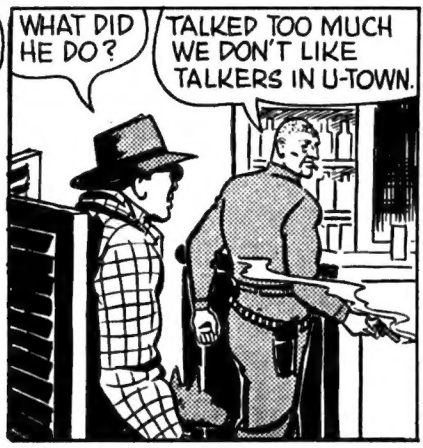

TIME DECENT PEOPLE BROUGHT LAW AND ORDER TO THIS TOWN!
SLIM-THROW THE OLD BUM OUT!

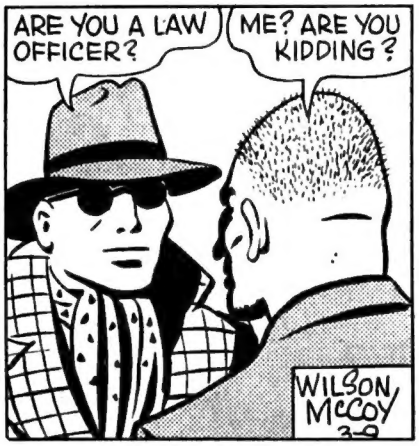
THERE ARE TIMES, THE NATIVES SAY, WHEN THE PHANTOM LEAVES THE JUNGLE~~
WILSON McCOY 3-8

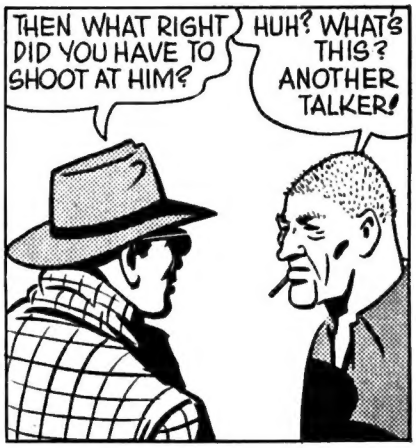
~AND WALKS THRU THE TOWN LIKE AN ORDINARY MAN.

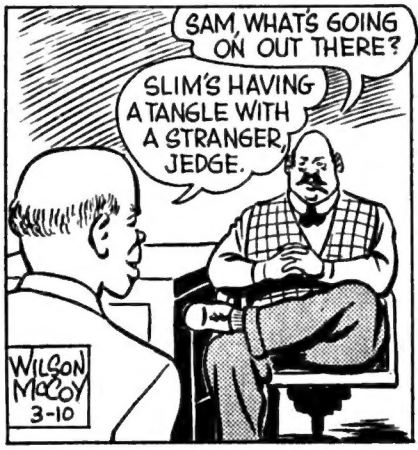
THIS IS ONE OF THOSE NIGHTS
AND STAY OUT!


GET OUTA TOWN, YOU OLD COOT~~ AND STAY OUT!


WHAT DID HE DO?
TALKED TOO MUCH WE DON'T LIKE TALKERS IN U-TOWN.


ARE YOU A LAW OFFICER?
ME? ARE YOU KIDDING?
WILSON McCOY 3-9

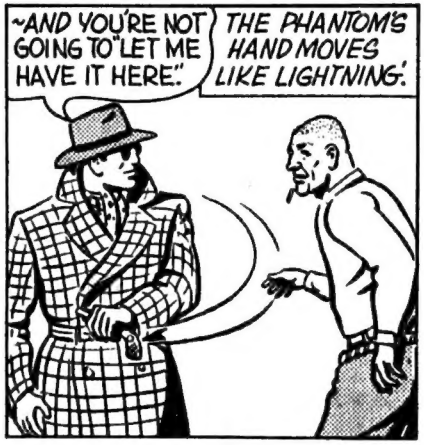

THEN WHAT RIGHT DID YOU HAVE TO SHOOT AT HIM?
HUH? WHAT'S THIS? ANOTHER TALKER!

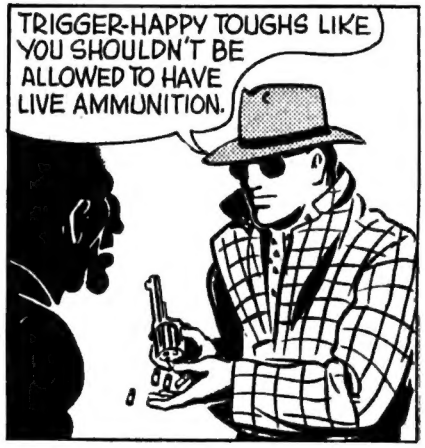

SAM, WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE?
SLIM'S HAVING A TANGLE WITH A STRANGER, JEDGE.
WILSON McCOY 3-10

SLIM'S TRIGGER-HAPPY. TELL HIM TO TAKE THE STRANGER OUTSIDE.
THE BOYS GOTTA HAVE THEIR FUN, JEDGE.

SLIM, JEDGE SAYS TO TAKE THAT STRANGER OUTSIDE. HE DON'T WANT YOU MESSIN' UP THE PLACE.
YOU HEARD THAT. START RUNNING, YOU!
I JUST GOT HERE. I'M NOT GOING ANYPLACE.

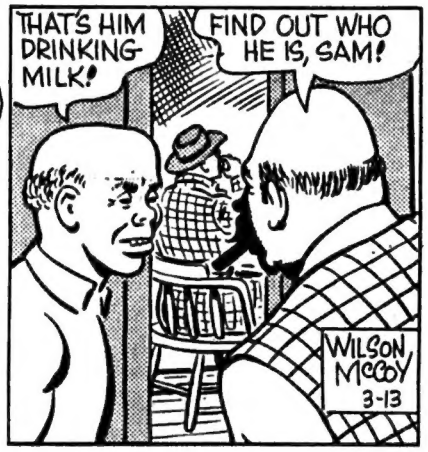
YOU GOING TO START RUNNING, OR DO I LET YOU HAVE IT HERE?
I'M NOT GOING TO START RUNNING~
WILSON McCOY 3-12


~AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LET ME HAVE IT HERE!
THE PHANTOM'S HAND MOVES LIKE LIGHTNING!

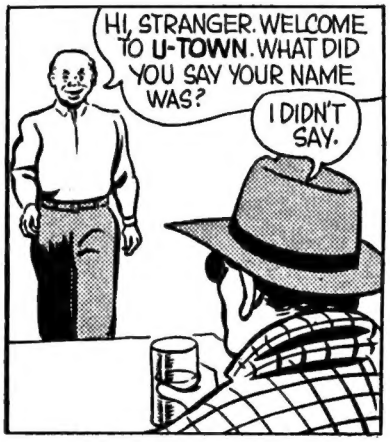

TRIGGER-HAPPY TOUGHS LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO HAVE LIVE AMMUNITION.

NOW, WAITER, MAY I HAVE A GLASS OF MILK, PLEASE? AND WATER FOR MY WOLF-DOG.

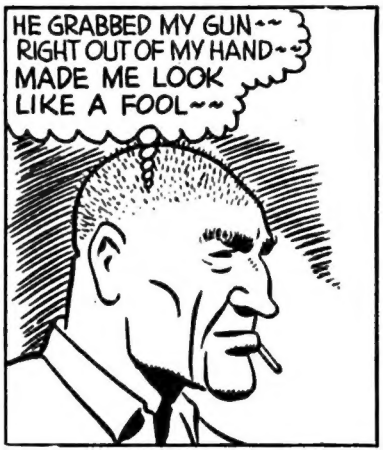
SEEN A GHOST? WHY'RE YOUR EYES POPPING?
SLIM HAD A GUN ON THIS STRANGER~WHO GRABS IT~AND TOSSES IT AWAY!

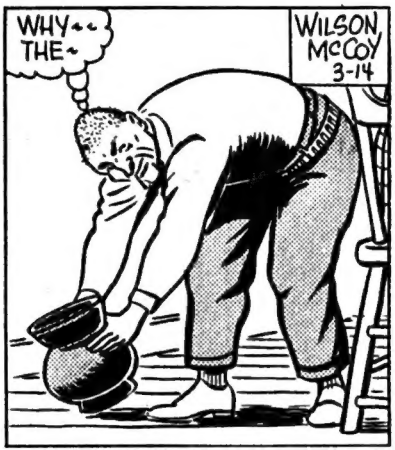

THAT'S HIM DRINKING MILK!
FIND OUT WHO HE IS, SAM!
WILSON McCOY 3-13

HAD THE GUN IN MY HAND~ DIDN'T EVEN SEE HIM MOVE~ THEN HE HAD IT!

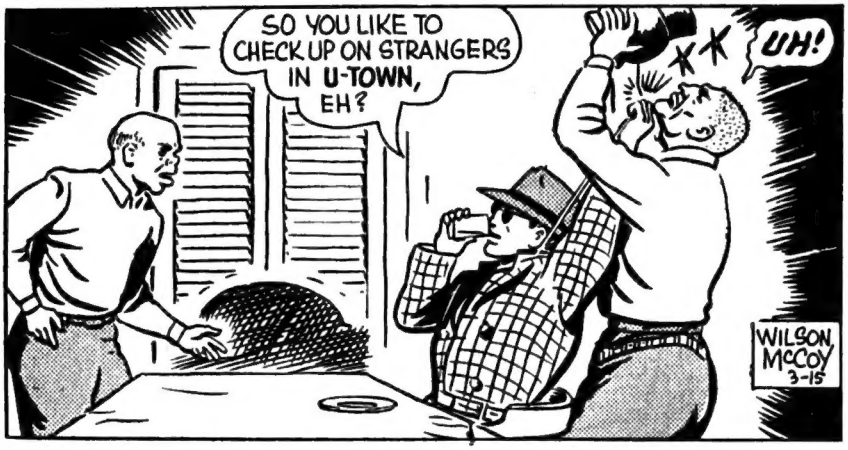

HI, STRANGER. WELCOME TO U-TOWN. WHAT DID YOU SAY YOUR NAME WAS?
I DIDN'T SAY.

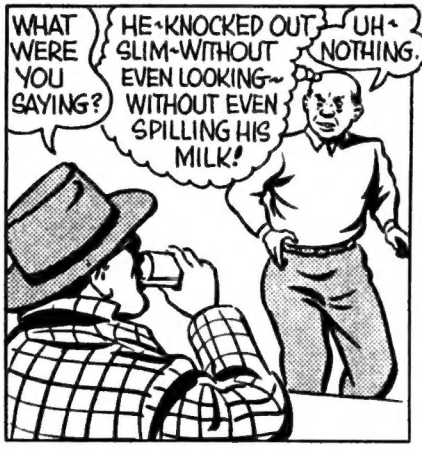
ER~WE LIKE TO KNOW WHAT STRANGERS ARE DOING IN U-TOWN.
I IMAGINE YOU DO.

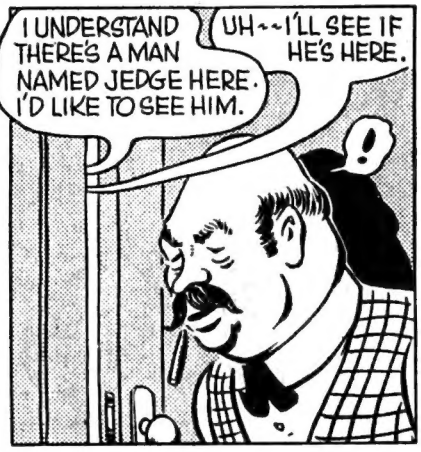

HE GRABBED MY GUN~~ RIGHT OUT OF MY HAND~~ MADE ME LOOK LIKE A FOOL~~


WHY~~ THE~
WILSON McCOY 3-14

YOU


SO YOU LIKE TO CHECK UP ON STRANGERS IN U-TOWN, EH?
UH!
WILSON McCOY 3-15


WHAT WERE YOU SAYING?
HE-KNOCKED OUT SLIM-WITHOUT EVEN LOOKING-- WITHOUT EVEN SPILLING HIS MILK!
UH- NOTHING.


I UNDERSTAND THERE'S A MAN NAMED JEDGE HERE. I'D LIKE TO SEE HIM.
UH--I'LL SEE IF HE'S HERE.
!

BUT THIS STRANGER WANTS TO SEE YOU, JEDGE.
I'M NOT HERE. FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HIM. HE LOOKS TOUGH!

ER-JEDGE ISN'T HERE NOW.
NO? THEN I'LL BE BACK.
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WILSON McCOY 3-16
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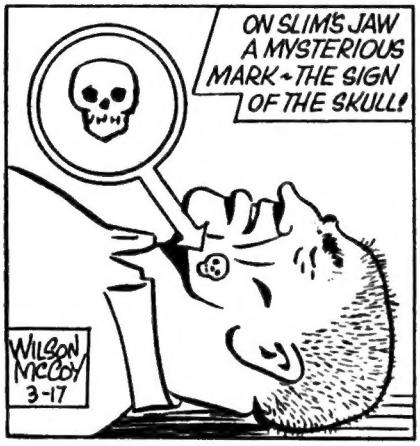
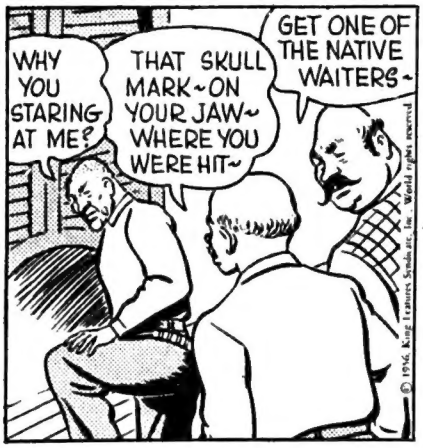
HE KNOCKED OUT SLIM WITHOUT EVEN LOOKING AT HIM!
SAY, WHAT'S THIS ON SLIM'S JAW? LOOKS LIKE- A SKULL MARK!


ON SLIM'S JAW A MYSTERIOUS MARK-THE SIGN OF THE SKULL!
WILSON McCOY 3-17

THE STRANGER MUSTA LEFT THAT MARK-- WHEN HE HIT SLIM--
WHAT'S IT-- MEAN?

I ONCE HEARD NATIVES TALK ABOUT THE SIGN OF THE PHANTOM!
PHANTOM?

STREET'S EMPTY- WHERE'D HE GO?
I--DON'T KNOW. I FEEL CHILLY--


WHY YOU STARING AT ME?
THAT SKULL MARK~ON YOUR JAW~ WHERE YOU WERE HIT~
GET ONE OF THE NATIVE WAITERS~
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WHAT'S THAT MARK ON SLIM'S JAW?
SIGN OF SKULL! PHANTOM!

WHO IS THE PHANTOM? WHERE'S HE FROM?
MAN WHO NEVER-DIES~GHOST WHO WALKS. EVERYWHERE~NOWHERE~~

?
?
?
WILSON McCOY 3-19

NEWLYWEDS NEAR U-TOWN.
MOTHER THOUGHT WE WERE MAD TO GO URANIUM-HUNTING.
LISTEN! MOTHER MAY CHANGE HER MIND!
TICK TICK

HEAR THAT COUNTER TICK? I'M SURE WE'VE FOUND URANIUM!
OH, DARLING~HOW EXCITING! WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP?
TICK TICK TICK

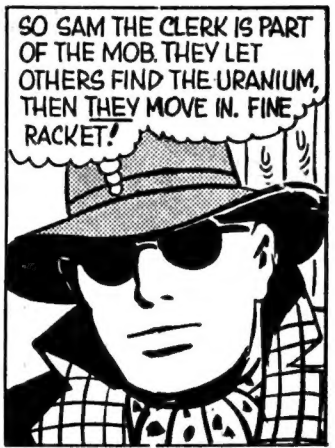
STAKE OUT OUR CLAIM~THEN GET DOWN TO THAT OFFICE!
WON'T MOTHER BE SURPRISED?

A REAL PAIR OF BABES-IN-THE-WOODS TO FACE THE JEDGE'S MOB!
I'LL FOLLOW THIS AND SEE HOW THE RACKET WORKS.
WILSON McCOY 3-20

WAIT HERE, PLEASE.
THANK YOU.
OH, NED, I'M SO EXCITED! URANIUM! AND WE FOUND IT!
ASSAYING

GOOD STUFF, JEDGE. CLAIM'S UP ON GREEN HILL. NAME OF MOSS.
GET SLIM AND THE BOYS GOING, SAM.

GREEN HILL, SOUTHWEST CORNER. THE USUAL, SLIM.
RIGHT!
WILSON McCOY 3-21

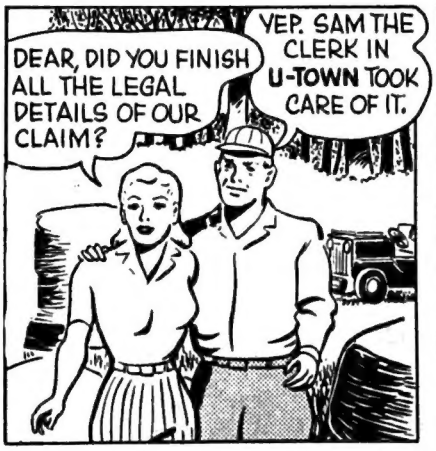

SO SAM THE CLERK IS PART OF THE MOB. THEY LET OTHERS FIND THE URANIUM, THEN THEY MOVE IN. FINE RACKET!

THIS IS IT, BOYS. GET TO WORK.

WHOSE NAME'LL WE PUT ON THE TAGS THIS TIME, SLIM?
USE MINE FOR A CHANGE.

DARNED SKULL MARK! NO MATTER HOW HARD I WASH AND RUB, IT WON'T GO AWAY~~

TIME FOR SHUT-EYE. WHOEVER USED TO OWN THIS CLAIM'LL BE BACK IN THE MORNING, YOU CAN BET.
WILSON McCOY 3-22
HMMM~


DEAR, DID YOU FINISH ALL THE LEGAL DETAILS OF OUR CLAIM?
YEP. SAM THE CLERK IN U-TOWN TOOK CARE OF IT.

VAMOOSE, YOU TWO! YOU'RE TRESPASSIN!
TRESPASSING? THIS IS OUR CLAIM!

YEAH? LOOK ON THE TAGS. THAT'S NOT YOUR NAME, IS IT?
WHY~I~HUH~ WHAT IS THIS?

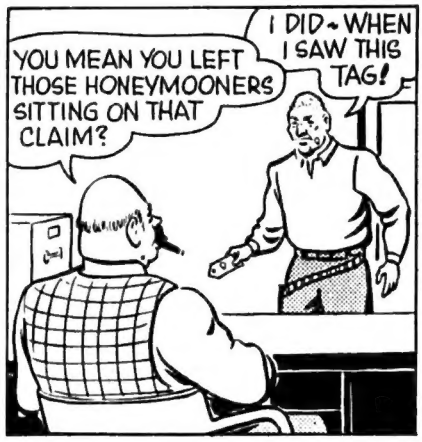
?!
WILSON McCOY 3-23

SLIM! WE CHANGED THESE TAGS OURSELVES LAST NIGHT, BUT THERE'S A NEW TAG ON NOW!
DRY UP, FOOL! LEMME SEE.

THE SAME MARK AS ON MY JAW~~
WILSON McCOY 3-24

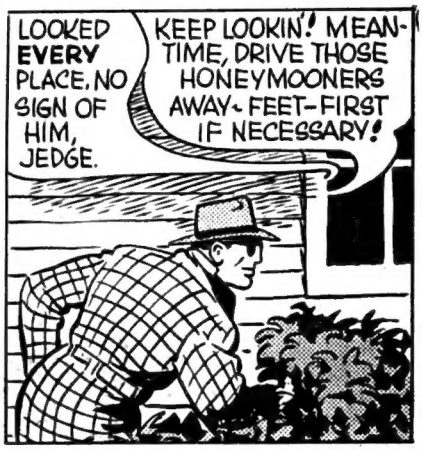
WE HEARD HIM SAY YOU CHANGED THE TAGS!
DRY UP, SONNY, BEFORE YOU GET HURT. COME ON, PETE.

LET'S REPORT THIS TO THE BOSS!
A SKULL MARK? WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?
I DON'T KNOW, DEAR.


YOU MEAN YOU LEFT THOSE HONEYMOONERS SITTING ON THAT CLAIM?
I DID - WHEN I SAW THIS TAG!

THAT MARK AGAIN! I WON'T BE BUFFALOED BY A HOODOO! FIND HIM!
WILSON McCOY 3-26

WE'VE LOOKED ENOUGH, LET'S GO BACK.
WE HAIN'T LOOKED VERY HARD, SLIM.
WHO WANTS TO LOOK HARD-FOR A HOODOO?


LOOKED EVERY PLACE, NO SIGN OF HIM, JEDGE.
KEEP LOOKIN'! MEANTIME, DRIVE THOSE HONEYMOONERS AWAY - FEET-FIRST IF NECESSARY!

HERE COME THOSE GUNMEN AGAIN!
NED, YOU CAN'T FIGHT ALL OF THEM!
WILSON McCOY 3-27

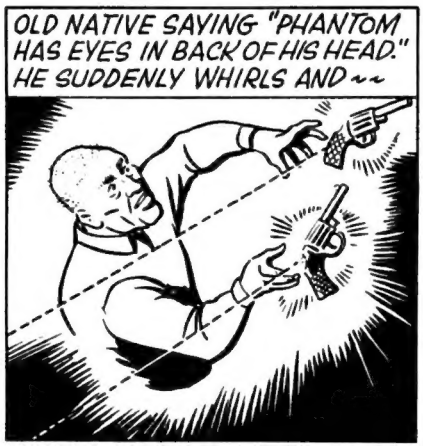
WE'RE GIVING YOU TEN MINUTES TO CLEAR OUT.
YEAH? I'LL GIVE YOU EXACTLY THIRTY SECONDS!

DROP THAT RIFLE, SONNY, OR YOUR HONEYMOON'S OVER RIGHT NOW!

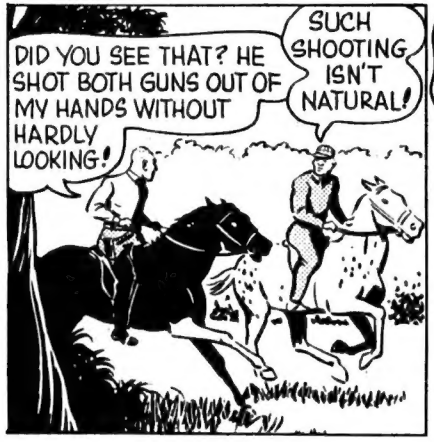
SUDDENLY - - A SHOT - - !
NOW GET GOING, AND DON'T COME BACK - HUH - -

WHO FIRED THAT SHOT? YOU?
ME.

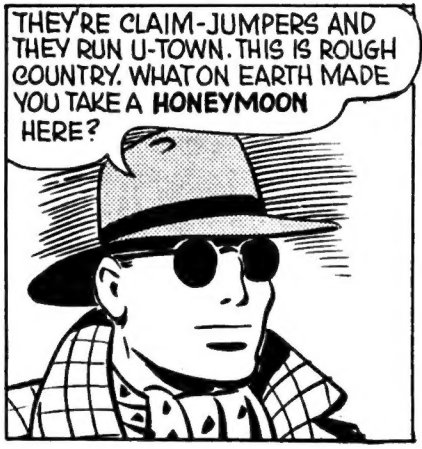
THE FELLOW WHO MADE THE MARK ON MY JAW. HE'S NOT LOOKING MY WAY -
WILSON McCOY 3-28


OLD NATIVE SAYING "PHANTOM HAS EYES IN BACK OF HIS HEAD." HE SUDDENLY WHIRLS AND - -

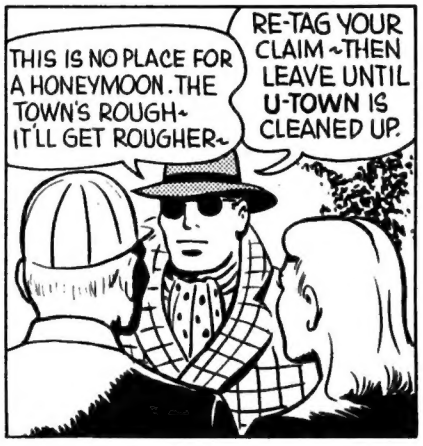
TELL THE "JEDGE" I'LL SEE HIM TONIGHT!


DID YOU SEE THAT? HE SHOT BOTH GUNS OUT OF MY HANDS WITHOUT HARDLY LOOKING!
SUCH SHOOTING ISN'T NATURAL!

GEE ~ THANK YOU FOR HELPING US! WHO ARE YOU?
A FRIEND IN NEED. YOU'RE AGAINST A TOUGH CROWD.
WILSON McCOY 3-29


THEY'RE CLAIM-JUMPERS AND THEY RUN U-TOWN. THIS IS ROUGH COUNTRY. WHAT ON EARTH MADE YOU TAKE A HONEYMOON HERE?

IT WAS THE ONLY PLACE I COULD THINK OF WHERE HER MOTHER WOULDN'T INSIST ON COMING ALONG, TOO!
NED!


THIS IS NO PLACE FOR A HONEYMOON. THE TOWN'S ROUGH ~ IT'LL GET ROUGHER ~
RE-TAG YOUR CLAIM ~ THEN LEAVE UNTIL U-TOWN IS CLEANED UP.

WHEN YOU REACH THE CITY, PLEASE MAIL THIS FOR ME.
GLADLY. ER ~~ WHO'S GOING TO CLEAN UP U-TOWN?

I AM.
WILSON McCOY 3-30

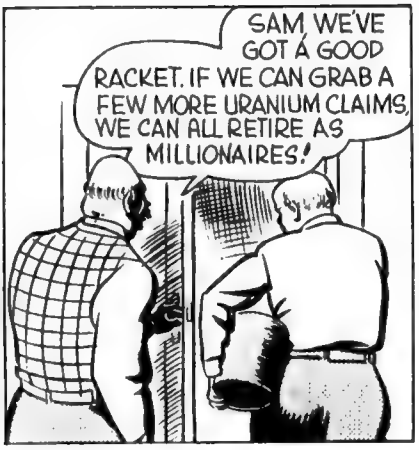
~ THE WAY HE SAID THAT ~ NOT BRAGGING OR ANYTHING ~ JUST A PLAIN STATEMENT!
I BELIEVE HIM! GEE ~ WHO COULD HE BE?

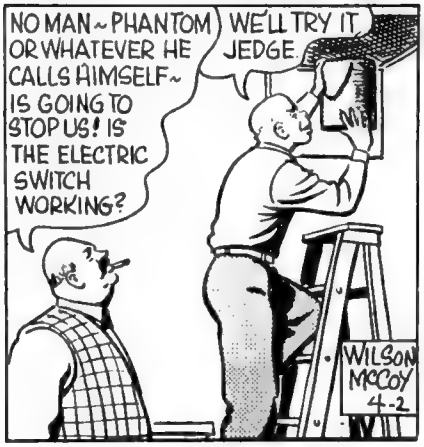
THAT STRANGER NOT ONLY SAVED OUR URANIUM CLAIM ~ BUT OUR LIVES! WHO WAS HE?
I HEARD TALK IN TOWN ~~ ABOUT 'THE PHANTOM'!
WILSON McCOY 3-31

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
I'M NOT SURE. AS FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED, IT MEANS WHAT HE SAID ~ "A FRIEND IN NEED!"

BUT, JEDGE ~ SUCH SHOOTING ~ WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE!
THREE OF YOU AGAINST ONE MAN? YOU IDIOTS!

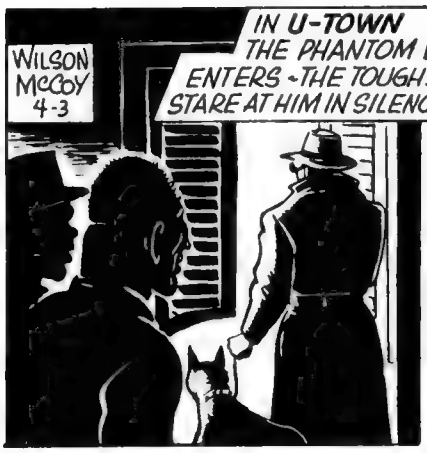
WHAT'S MORE, HE SAID HE WAS COMING TO SEE YOU TONIGHT, JEDGE!
HE DID, EH? WE'LL BE READY. SAM, GET THAT ORE BUCKET!
NEXT WEEK: ORE BUCKET


SAM, WE'VE GOT A GOOD RACKET. IF WE CAN GRAB A FEW MORE URANIUM CLAIMS, WE CAN ALL RETIRE AS MILLIONAIRES!


NO MAN ~ PHANTOM OR WHATEVER HE CALLS HIMSELF ~ IS GOING TO STOP US! IS THE ELECTRIC SWITCH WORKING?
WE'LL TRY IT JEDGE.
WILSON McCOY 4-2

YEP ~ IT WORKS! PUT IT BACK UP, SAM.
WHEN THIS PHANTOM CALLS TONIGHT, WE'LL BE READY!

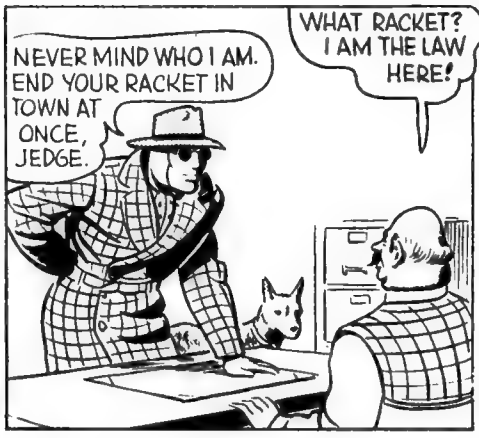
HERE HE COMES!
SURE IT'S HIM?
I'D KNOW HIM ANYPLACE ~ AND THAT DOG!

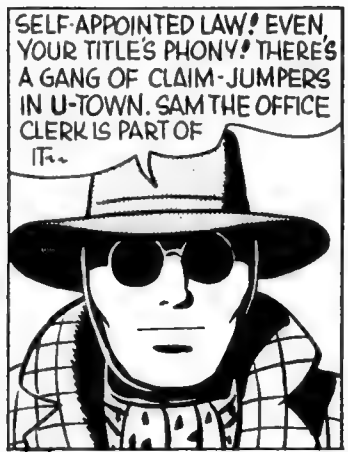

WILSON McCOY 4-3
IN U-TOWN THE PHANTOM ENTERS ~ THE TOUGHS STARE AT HIM IN SILENCE

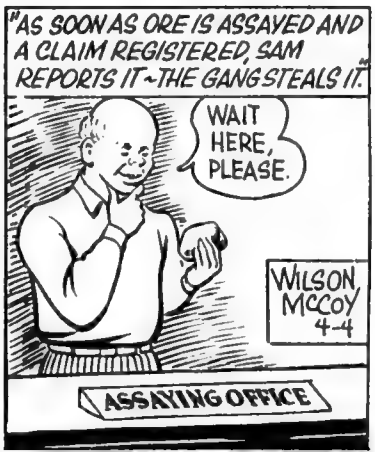
SAM, I'VE COME TO SEE JEDGE.
UH ~ I'M NOT SURE HE'S IN.

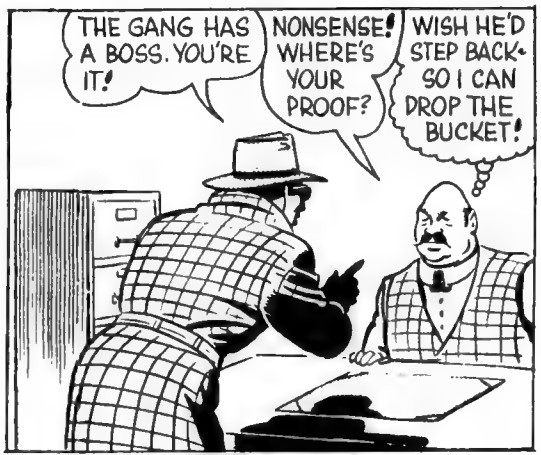
I'LL SEE FOR MYSELF.

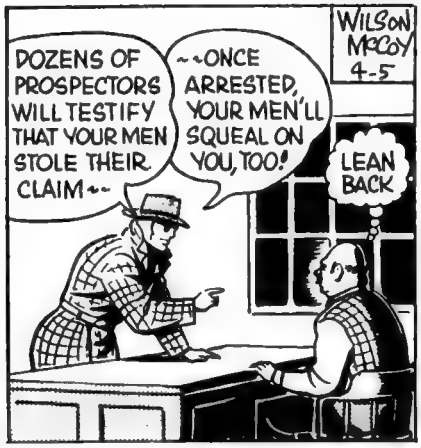
YOU'RE JEDGE? THEY SAID YOU WEREN'T IN.
I'M USUALLY NOT, TO STRANGERS. WHO ARE YOU? WHAT'S YOUR BUSINESS?


NEVER MIND WHO I AM. END YOUR RACKET IN TOWN AT ONCE, JEDGE.
WHAT RACKET? I AM THE LAW HERE!


SELF-APPOINTED LAW! EVEN YOUR TITLE'S PHONY! THERE'S A GANG OF CLAIM-JUMPERS IN U-TOWN. SAM THE OFFICE CLERK IS PART OF IT ~


"AS SOON AS ORE IS ASSAYED AND A CLAIM REGISTERED, SAM REPORTS IT ~ THE GANG STEALS IT."
WAIT HERE, PLEASE.
WILSON McCOY 4-4
ASSAYING OFFICE

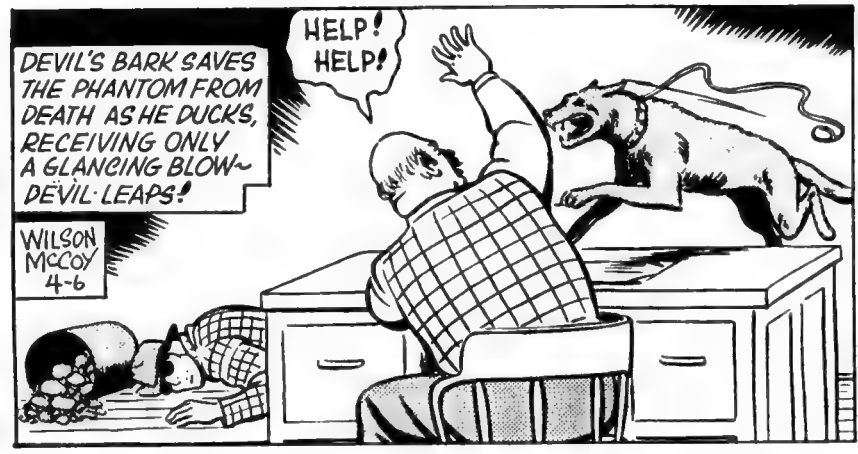

THE GANG HAS A BOSS. YOU'RE IT!
NONSENSE! WHERE'S YOUR PROOF?
WISH HE'D STEP BACK ~ SO I CAN DROP THE BUCKET!


WILSON McCOY 4-5
DOZENS OF PROSPECTORS WILL TESTIFY THAT YOUR MEN STOLE THEIR CLAIM~~
~~ONCE ARRESTED, YOUR MEN'LL SQUEAL ON YOU, TOO!
LEAN BACK

I'M GIVING YOU ONE CHANCE~ RETURN THE CLAIMS~GET YOU AND YOUR MOB OUT OF U-TOWN.
THAT'S BIG OF YOU.

AND IF I REFUSE?
IN THAT CASE, JEDGE~

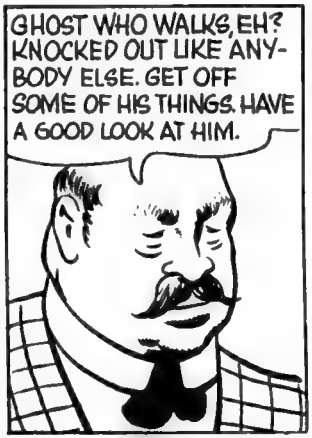
DEVIL BARKS ~ THE PHANTOM DODGES ~ BUT THE HEAVY BUCKET STRIKES HIM A GLANCING BLOW.


HELP! HELP!
DEVIL'S BARK SAVES THE PHANTOM FROM DEATH AS HE DUCKS, RECEIVING ONLY A GLANCING BLOW~ DEVIL LEAPS!
WILSON McCOY 4-6

GET HIM AWAY!
OUT THE WINDOW WITH HIM~THEN SHOOT THE VARMINT!

GET HIM?
THINK SO.

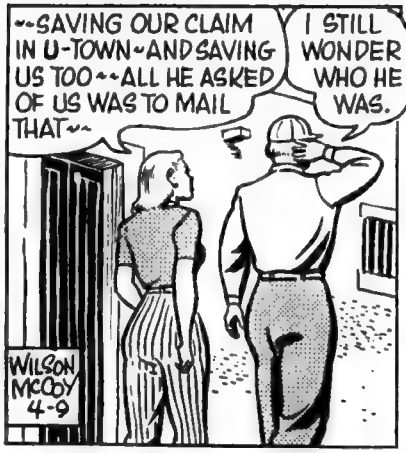
HE'S STILL BREATHING. YOU'D THINK THAT BUCKET OF ORE WOULD HAVE KILLED HIM!
WOULD HAVE~THE DOG BARKED~HE DUCKED~IT BARELY HIT HIM~


GHOST WHO WALKS, EH? KNOCKED OUT LIKE ANYBODY ELSE. GET OFF SOME OF HIS THINGS. HAVE A GOOD LOOK AT HIM.

WHAT'S HE GOT ON?
WILSON McCOY 4-7

NED, DID YOU MAIL THAT LETTER? YOU KNOW THE ONE.
OH~MIGOSH~ I FORGOT!

I'VE CARRIED IT IN MY POCKET FOR DAYS!
NED~~HOW COULD YOU! AFTER ALL HE DID FOR US! ~~


~~SAVING OUR CLAIM IN U-TOWN~AND SAVING US TOO~~ALL HE ASKED OF US WAS TO MAIL THAT~~
I STILL WONDER WHO HE WAS.
WILSON McCOY 4-9

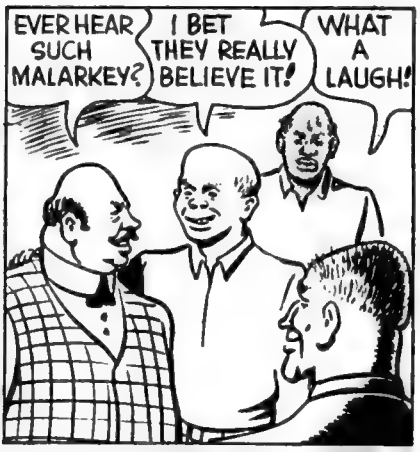
IN U-TOWN, OTHERS ARE WONDERING THE SAME THING!
?
!?

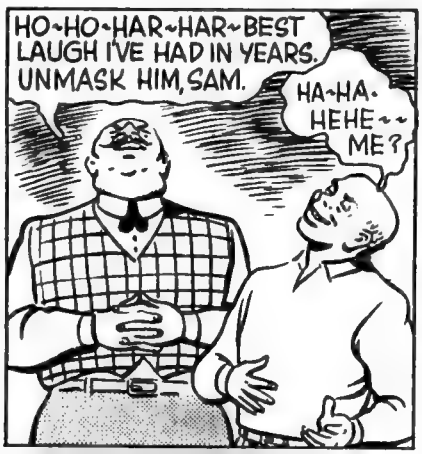
SO THAT IS THE PHANTOM~THE GHOST WHO WALKS!
THE MAN WHO NEVER DIES?~MAKE SURE~CALL IN THE WAITER.

WHO IS THAT?
PHAN-TOM!

LET'S TAKE OFF THAT MASK AND HOOD AND HAVE A GOOD LOOK AT HIM.
NO~NO! HE WHO LOOKS ON FACE OF PHANTOM DIES! HE WHO UNMASKS PHANTOM DIES HORRIBLY!
WILSON McCOY 4-10

IF WE SEE HIS FACE, WE ALL DIE?
YES, AND HE WHO UNMASKS THE PHANTOM DIES HORRIBLY! ALL THE JUNGLE KNOWS THAT!
WILSON McCOY 4-11

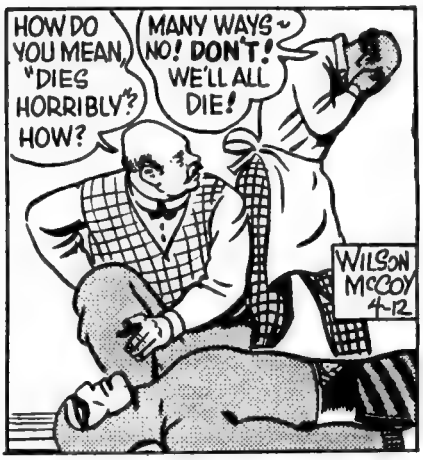

EVER HEAR SUCH MALARKEY?
I BET THEY REALLY BELIEVE IT!
WHAT A LAUGH!


HO~HO~HAR~HAR~BEST LAUGH I'VE HAD IN YEARS. UNMASK HIM, SAM.
HA~HA~ HEHE~~ ME?

I~ER~DON'T THINK I WANT TO. YOU DO IT, JEDGE.
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE SCARED, SAM!

I'M NOT SAYIN' I BELIEVE THAT NONSENSE ~ THAT WE'LL DIE IF WE SEE HIS FACE. I JUST~~
OH, NO, YOU'RE JUST AFRAID TO UNMASK HIM! SLIM, YOU DO IT.
UH ~ I'D RATHER WATCH YOU DO IT, JEDGE.

OF ALL THE STUPID ~ I'LL DO IT!
~AND HE WHO UNMASKS THE PHANTOM DIES HORRIBLY!


HOW DO YOU MEAN, "DIES HORRIBLY"? HOW?
MANY WAYS ~ NO! DON'T! WE'LL ALL DIE!
WILSON McCOY 4-12

SILLY SUPER-STITION! I'LL UNMASK HIM~~
I DON'T WANT TO~ BUT HAVE TO GO THRU WITH IT.
NO ~ NO ~

NOW~~HEY~ HE'S COMING TO!
QUICK~ TIE HIM UP!

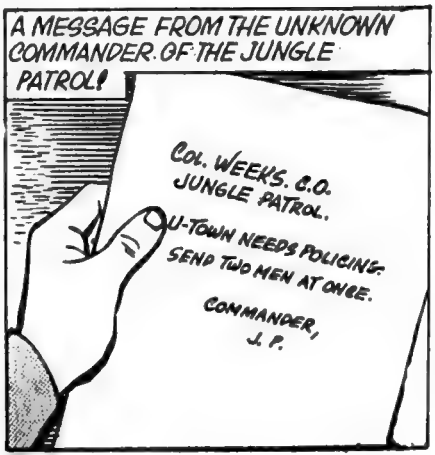
WHEW~WHO CARES WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE~TAKE HIM OUT TO THE OLD SHAFT!

THANK GOODNESS HE MOVED BEFORE I GOT THE MASK OFF.
I DON'T BELIEVE A WORD OF THAT JUNGLE NONSENSE~ BUT WHO KNOWS?
WILSON McCOY 4-13

HALF CONSCIOUS, THE PHANTOM IS CARRIED TO AN ABANDONED MINE.

DEVIL TRAILS THEM SILENTLY~~
NOW WE'LL SEE IF HE REALLY IS THE "MAN WHO CANNOT DIE"!

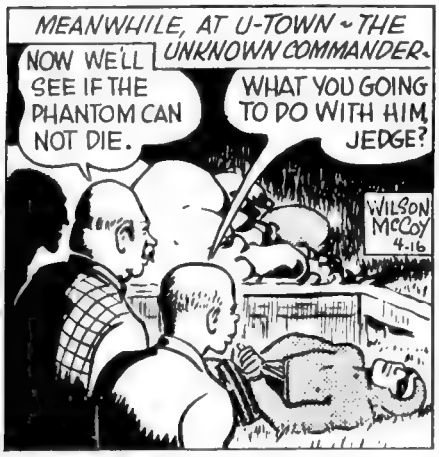
MEANWHILE, IN BENGALI-TOWN, A LETTER IS RECEIVED AT JUNGLE PATROL HQ.
HMM~THIS LOOKS FAMILIAR. IT LOOKS LIKE IT IS~FROM THE COMMANDER!
WILSON McCOY 4-14


A MESSAGE FROM THE UNKNOWN COMMANDER OF THE JUNGLE PATROL!
COL. WEEKS, C.O. JUNGLE PATROL.
U-TOWN NEEDS POLICING. SEND TWO MEN AT ONCE.
COMMANDER, J. P.

AT JUNGLE PATROL H.Q.
FIRST TIME WE EVER RECEIVED AN ORDER FROM HIM THRU THE MAIL!
COL. WEEKS JUNGLE PATROL,
U-TOWN NEEDS POLICING. SEND TWO MEN AT ONCE.
COMMANDER, J.P.

YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS. PROCEED AT ONCE TO U-TOWN.
COL. WEEKS

I'VE BEEN WONDERING! WHO IS OUR COMMANDER?
YOU'RE NEW IN THE PATROL. THAT'S A QUESTION NO ONE ASKS - BECAUSE NO ONE KNOWS!

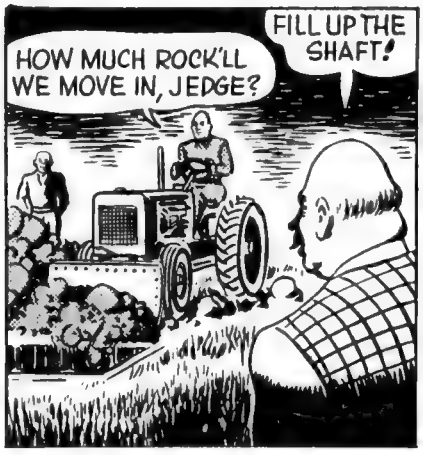

MEANWHILE, AT U-TOWN - THE UNKNOWN COMMANDER.
NOW WE'LL SEE IF THE PHANTOM CAN NOT DIE.
WHAT YOU GOING TO DO WITH HIM, JEDGE?
WILSON McCOY 4-16

DOWN HE GOES!
HALF CONSCIOUS, THE PHANTOM IS PUSHED INTO THE MINE SHAFT

INSTINCTIVELY - HE LANDS CAT-LIKE ON ALL FOURS

THEN LIES STILL
HASN'T MOVED - HE'S FINISHED
WILSON McCOY 4-17

FILL UP THE SHAFT - JUST TO MAKE SURE!


HOW MUCH ROCK'LL WE MOVE IN, JEDGE?
FILL UP THE SHAFT!

HALF CONSCIOUS, THE PHANTOM DRAGS HIMSELF INTO A MINE CORRIDOR LEADING FROM THE SHAFT

WILSON McCOY 4-18
THAT DOES IT, SLIM!

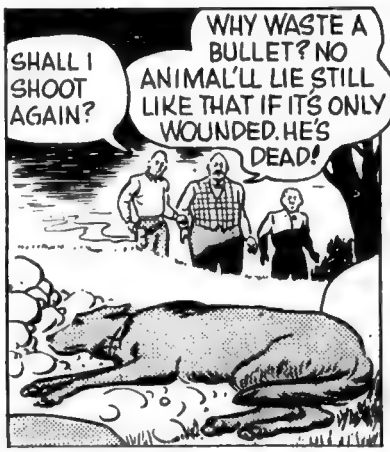
THAT FINISHES HIM, JEDGE.
YES. I'D SAY WE CAN FORGET ALL ABOUT THE PHANTOM.

WILSON McCOY 4-19
DEVIL RUSHES TO THE FILLED-IN MINE SHAFT~

HEY~LOOK BACK THERE~HIS WOLF-DOG!
I THOUGHT I GOT HIM BEFORE!

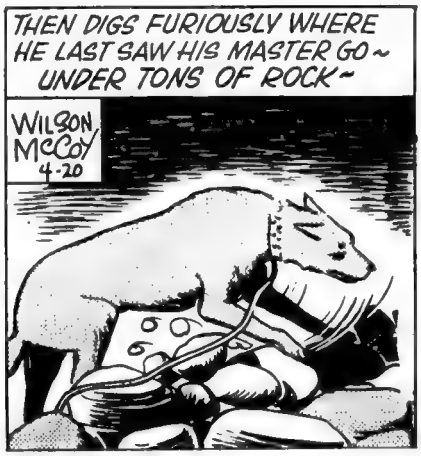
THE BULLET STRIKES NEAR DEVIL~~ HE LEAPS~~

~THEN PLAYS DEAD~~A TRICK THE PHANTOM TAUGHT HIM!
GOOD SHOT, SLIM! THAT DID IT!


SHALL I SHOOT AGAIN?
WHY WASTE A BULLET? NO ANIMAL'LL LIE STILL LIKE THAT IF IT'S ONLY WOUNDED. HE'S DEAD!

THAT WAS A GOOD DAY'S WORK! FIRST THE PHANTOM, THEN HIS WOLF.
NOW NOBODY'LL BOTHER US IN U-TOWN!

PLAYING DEAD, DEVIL WATCHES UNTIL THE MEN ARE GONE~~


THEN DIGS FURIOUSLY WHERE HE LAST SAW HIS MASTER GO~ UNDER TONS OF ROCK~
WILSON McCOY 4-20

THE PHANTOM AND HIS ANIMAL ARE FINISHED. BACK TO WORK, BOYS.
RIGHT, JEDGE.

AND THE 'CLAIM-JUMPING' RACKET GOES ON IN LAWLESS U-TOWN!
I WANT TO REGISTER MY URANIUM CLAIM.
WAIT HERE A MOMENT, PLEASE.
ASSAYING OFFICE

DEVIL DIGS~ BUT THERE ARE TONS OF ROCK BETWEEN HIM AND THE PHANTOM~
WILSON McCOY 4-21

DIZZY~~STILL WEAK~~THE PHANTOM COMES TO~~
WHERE AM I~~? UNDERGROUND!

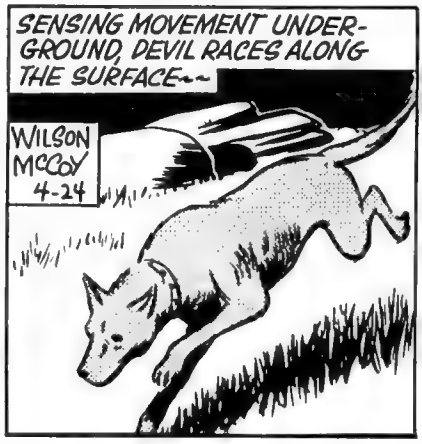
BURIED UNDER-GROUND IN AN ABANDONED MINE~
WILSON McCOY 4-23

THIS MUST BE AN OLD MINE. I CAN DIMLY REMEMBER THEM PUSHING ME DOWN~

HMM~ THEY FILLED IN THE SHAFT WITH ROCK! YES~I REMEMBER PULLING MYSELF INTO THIS CORRIDOR WHEN THE ROCKS STARTED FALLING~

THESE OLD MINES HAD MANY CORRIDORS. MAYBE I CAN FIND A WAY OUT~~ MAYBE NOT~~

NO LUCK~~THIS IS A DEAD END. THERE WERE SOME OTHER CORRIDORS BACK THERE. I'LL TRY THEM.


SENSING MOVEMENT UNDER-GROUND, DEVIL RACES ALONG THE SURFACE~~
WILSON McCOY 4-24

I'M GETTING DIZZY. CAN'T TELL ONE PASSAGE FROM ANOTHER. ALL DEAD ENDS SO FAR~ DON'T THINK I'VE TRIED THIS ONE YET~

ANOTHER DEAD END! I DON'T THINK~THERE'S ANY WAY OUT~~

I CAN FIND NO WAY OUT. I GUESS THIS IS IT!

WILSON McCOY 4-25
WOOF WOOF~

THAT SOUNDS LIKE DEVIL!

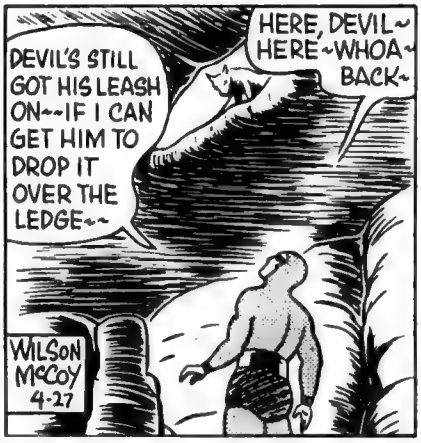
HIS BARKING IS STRONGER NOW~THERE'S LIGHT AHEAD! COMING, DEVIL!

DEVIL, OLD FELLA, YOU LED ME HERE! GOOD BOY!
WOOF WOOF

OH-OH- TOO HIGH- I'LL TRY AGAIN!
WILSON McCOY 4-26

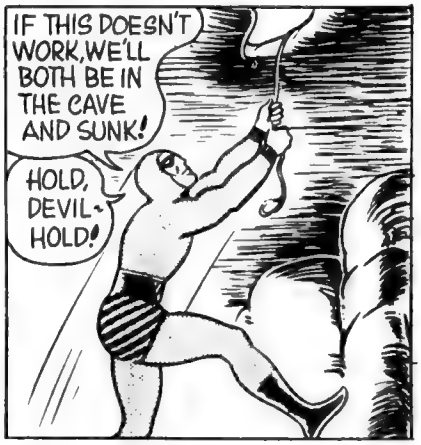
NO-TOO HIGH! CAN'T MAKE IT! NO WAY TO CLIMB UP!

WHAT CAN THE PHANTOM DO?
SO NEAR-AND YET SO FAR. NOW WHAT?
HEY-I'VE AN IDEA- IF I CAN GET DEVIL--


DEVIL'S STILL GOT HIS LEASH ON--IF I CAN GET HIM TO DROP IT OVER THE LEDGE--
HERE, DEVIL- HERE-WHOA- BACK-
WILSON McCOY 4-27

DEVIL IS PUZZLED. DOES HE WANT HIM TO JUMP DOWN THERE- STAY- OR WHAT?
HERE, DEVIL- HERE- WHOA- BACK-

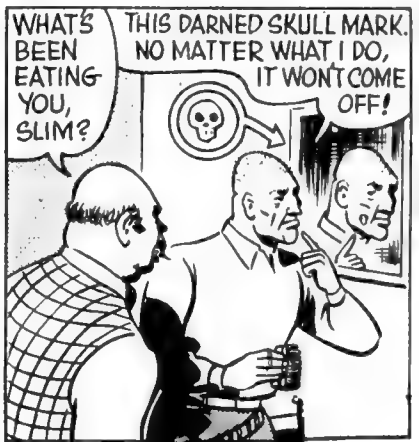
AFTER MANY TRIES THE LEASH FALLS OVER THE LEDGE.
HOLD, DEVIL!


IF THIS DOESN'T WORK, WE'LL BOTH BE IN THE CAVE AND SUNK!
HOLD, DEVIL- HOLD!

HOLD, FELLA, HOLD!

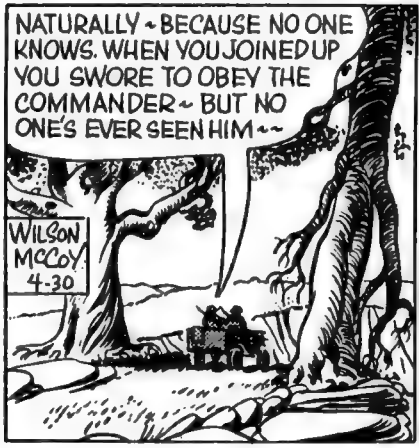
FOR A SPLIT SECOND THERE IS A GREAT WEIGHT-DEVIL HOLDS WITH ALL HIS STRENGTH!
WILSON McCOY 4-28

THEN-THE WEIGHT IS GONE-AND ONCE MORE THE LOVED MASTER!
YOU DID IT, FELLA!


WHAT'S BEEN EATING YOU, SLIM?
THIS DARNED SKULL MARK. NO MATTER WHAT I DO, IT WON'T COME OFF!

THE JUNGLE PATROLMEN NEAR U-TOWN.
WHAT'S OUR MISSION TO U-TOWN?
OUR ORDERS SAID IT WAS LAWLESS. NEEDED POLICING. FROM THE COMMANDER HIMSELF!

SAY, I'VE BEEN IN THE PATROL A YEAR. I'VE ASKED EVERYONE THE SAME QUESTION. WHO IS OUR COMMANDER? NOBODY'LL TELL ME!


NATURALLY ~ BECAUSE NO ONE KNOWS. WHEN YOU JOINED UP YOU SWORE TO OBEY THE COMMANDER ~ BUT NO ONE'S EVER SEEN HIM ~~
WILSON McCOY 4-30

HE'S EVERYWHERE ~ IS HE ONE OR A HUNDRED? NO ONE KNOWS.
WE'LL SLEEP HERE ~ AND ENTER U-TOWN TOMORROW.

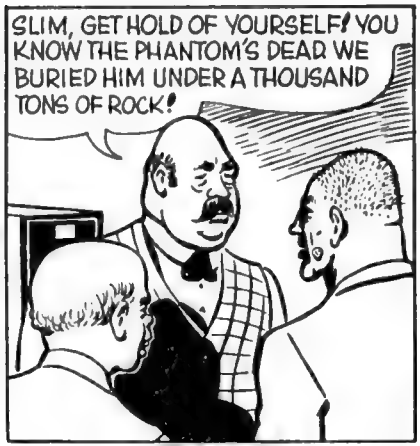
I WANT MY MONEY BACK!
LAWLESS U-TOWN ~ STILL RUN BY JEDGE'S GANG ~
TELL IT TO THE JEDGE ~ HAR ~ HAR ~

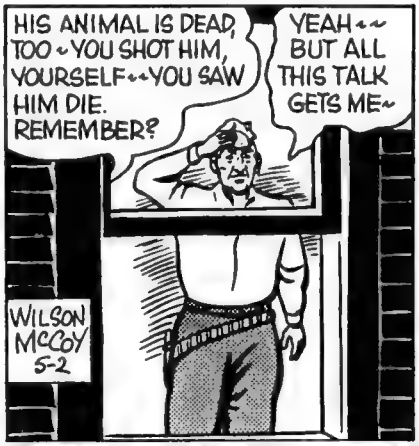
THIS RACKET'S GOOD! SLIM ~ WHAT YOU BLUBBERIN' ABOUT?
THIS DARNED SKULL MARK ~ IT WON'T COME OFF!

STOP TALKIN' ABOUT IT. IT GIVES US THE SHIVERS. AND STOP WORRYIN'. THE PHANTOM'S DEAD.
WILSON McCOY 5-1

PHANTOM ~ GHOST WHO WALKS ~ CAN NEVER DIE! HE WILL COME BACK! ALL JUNGLE KNOWS THAT!

PHANTOM CANNOT DIE ~~
GET OUTA HERE WITH THAT TALK ~ YOU ~

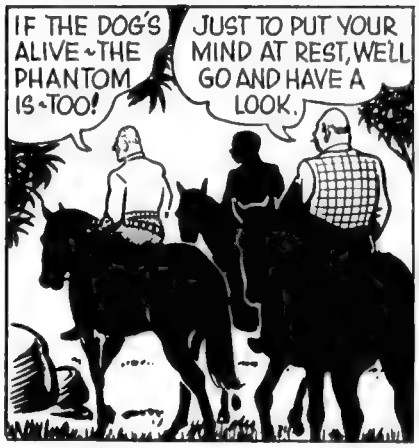

SLIM, GET HOLD OF YOURSELF! YOU KNOW THE PHANTOM'S DEAD. WE BURIED HIM UNDER A THOUSAND TONS OF ROCK!


HIS ANIMAL IS DEAD, TOO ~ YOU SHOT HIM, YOURSELF ~~ YOU SAW HIM DIE. REMEMBER?
YEAH ~~ BUT ALL THIS TALK GETS ME ~
WILSON McCOY 5-2

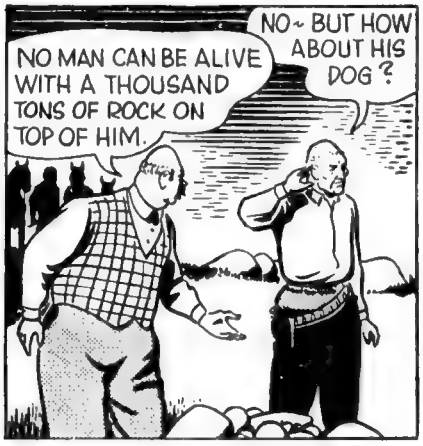
!!

SLIM ~ ARE YOU CRAZY? WHAT YOU SHOOTIN' AT?
THE PHANTOM'S DOG! THERE HE GOES!
BUT THE DOG'S DEAD!

HMM. WE ALL SAW YOU SHOOT HIM DEAD YESTERDAY.
NOTHIN' THERE.
I TELL YOU ~ I SAW HIM RUNNIN'!


IF THE DOG'S ALIVE ~ THE PHANTOM IS ~ TOO!
JUST TO PUT YOUR MIND AT REST, WE'LL GO AND HAVE A LOOK.

THERE'S A THOUSAND TONS OF ROCK IN THE MINE SHAFT— AND HE'S UNDER IT! SATISFIED?
I GUESS SO.
WILSON McCOY 5-3

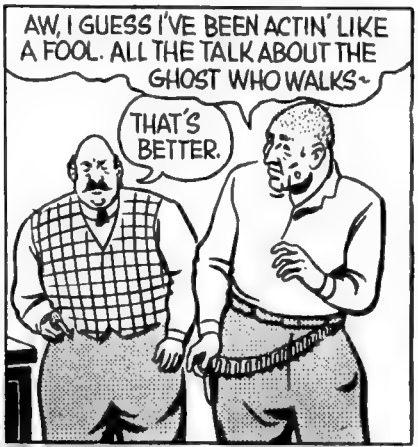

NO MAN CAN BE ALIVE WITH A THOUSAND TONS OF ROCK ON TOP OF HIM.
NO ~ BUT HOW ABOUT HIS DOG?

I SHOT HIM DEAD HERE ~ NO SIGN OF HIM ~~
RELAX, SLIM. MAYBE THE HYENAS MADE OFF WITH HIM ~~
WILSON McCOY 5-4

THERE SHOULD BE BLOODSTAINS ~ IT WAS RIGHT HERE ~ THERE'S NOTHING
GET UP OFF YOUR KNEES ~ LET'S GO BACK.

SLIM'S LOSIN' HIS NERVE. MAYBE WE SHOULD GET RID OF HIM, JEDGE.
YEAH.
?

SLIM, WE PROVED THE PHANTOM'S DEAD. UNLESS YOU STOP BLUBBERIN' LIKE A BABY ~ YOU'RE OUT!
(GULP) 'OUT' MEANS CURTAINS!

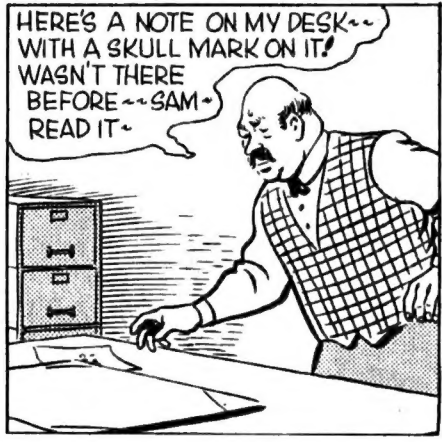

AW, I GUESS I'VE BEEN ACTIN' LIKE A FOOL. ALL THE TALK ABOUT THE GHOST WHO WALKS ~
THAT'S BETTER.

SLIM'S OUR BEST GUNMAN. WE'D HATE TO LOSE HIM.
LET'S ALL HAVE A DRINK ~ AND FORGET THE PHANTOM!
WILSON McCOY 5-5

THE SIGN OF THE PHANTOM!
WELL, HERE'S TO ~ HUH! ON MY GLASS ~~
AND ON MINE!

SKULL MARK~ ON OUR GLASSES~
WASN'T THERE AN HOUR AGO~
SAME AS ON MY JAW~ SIGN OF THE PHANTOM!

~AND ON THE BOTTLE! HE WAS HERE ~ WHILE WE WERE AT THE MINE SHAFT!
HE'S ALIVE!


HERE'S A NOTE ON MY DESK~~ WITH A SKULL MARK ON IT! WASN'T THERE BEFORE~~SAM~ READ IT~

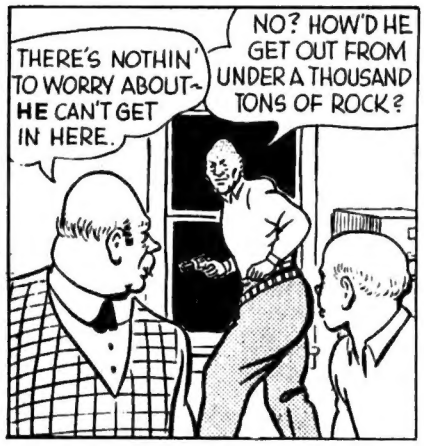
WILSON McCOY 5-7
I WILL COME BACK TONIGHT.

!
!
!
I WILL COME BACK TONIGHT.

BOYS ~ THROW EVERYBODY OUT OF THE PLACE! PUT A MAN AT EVERY WINDOW AND DOOR. DON'T LET ANYBODY IN!
WILSON McCOY 5-8

THE GHOST WHO WALKS ~ CAN NEVER DIE~
SHUT UP WITH THAT TALK! YOU'RE FIRED!

WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON IN U-TOWN~ THAT THEY NEED US PATROL-MEN~
WE'LL FIND OUT TOMORROW. LET'S GOME SLEEP.
WHAT'S GOING ON? PLENTY!


THERE'S NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT~ HE CAN'T GET IN HERE.
NO? HOW'D HE GET OUT FROM UNDER A THOUSAND TONS OF ROCK?

EVERY DOOR IS GUARDED~
GET GOING. THE PLACE IS CLOSED.
NOBODY'S ALLOWED IN.
?

~~EVERY WINDOW~
WILSON McCOY 5-9

JEDGE'S GOT GUARDS OUT ON EVERY ROAD. NO MAN CAN GET WITHIN A MILE OF HERE.
NO MAN? HOW ABOUT A HAUNT~~ A PHANTOM?

NO SIGN OF HIM YET-TWO HOURS TILL DAWN.
SAY~ MAYBE THAT NOTE IS A JOKE ~~ ONE OF THE BOYS WROTE IT~~!

TIME TO MOVE. THIS SKYLIGHT LEADS TO AN ATTIC ~~ SHOULD BE JUST ABOVE JEDGE'S OFFICE ~~

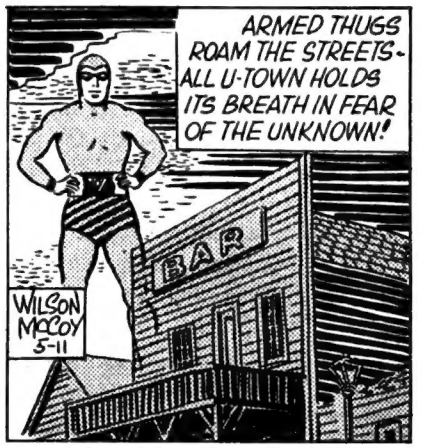
THAT'S THE TRAP DOOR WHERE THEY DROPPED THE ORE BUCKET THRU ONTO ME ~~
WILSON McCOY 5-10

LET'S HOPE IT'S A JOKE~BUT LET'S NOT COUNT ON IT YET!
ANYHOW~~HE CAN'T GET WITHIN A MILE OF HERE!

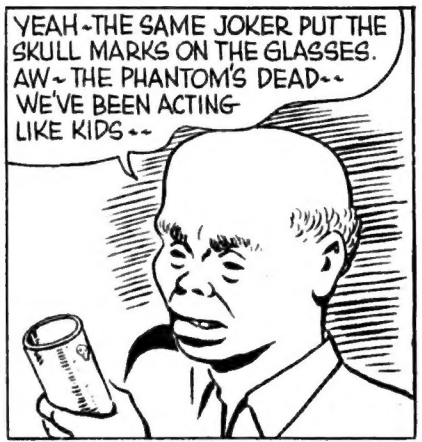
NED AND MADGE, THE NEWLYWEDS~
NED, IS IT WISE TO RETURN TO U-TOWN NOW?
OUR MASKED FRIEND SAID HE WAS GOING TO CLEAN IT UP.

BESIDES~I WANT TO SEE ABOUT OUR URANIUM CLAIM. HEY!
NED~ THOSE MEN IN THE ROAD ~~

NOBODY CAN ENTER U-TOWN. JEDGE'S ORDERS! NOT TILL TOMORROW~
WHAT'S HAPPENING THERE?


ARMED THUGS ROAM THE STREETS~ ALL U-TOWN HOLDS ITS BREATH IN FEAR OF THE UNKNOWN!
BAR
WILSON McCOY 5-11

~IT'S ALMOST DAWN. GUESS HE ISN'T COMING!
I FIGGER ONE OF THE BOYS SENT THAT NOTE~ TRYIN' TO KID US.


YEAH~THE SAME JOKER PUT THE SKULL MARKS ON THE GLASSES. AW~ THE PHANTOM'S DEAD~~ WE'VE BEEN ACTING LIKE KIDS ~~

IF WE EVER FIND THAT JOKER~SCARING THE DAYLIGHTS OUT OF US~~
WHO DO YOU THINK DID IT?
WILSON McCOY 5-12

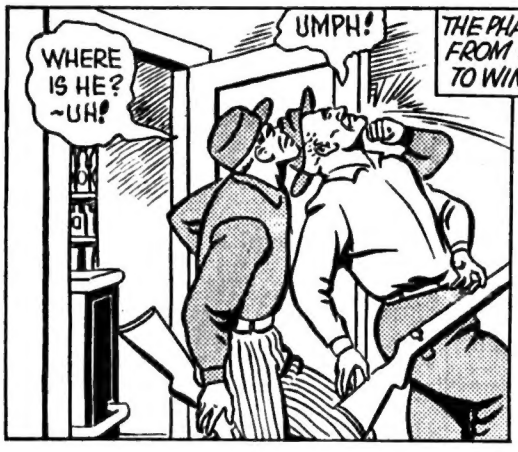
NO NEED TO LOOK FURTHER. I DID!

IT'S HIM!

YOU WERE RIGHT, SLIM! MY DOG CAME BACK~ AND SO DID I!
WILSON McCOY 5-14
UH-

NOW~YOU, JEDGE~~ THE KING-PIN~
HELP! HELP!

HE'S~IN THERE! HOW'D HE GET THERE?
WHO KNOWS? COME ON~ IN THERE~AFTER HIM~ ALL OF YOU!


WHERE IS HE? ~UH!
UMPH!

THE PHANTOM MOVES LIKE LIGHTNING FROM STAIRWAY TO DOOR TO WINDOW~~

SUDDENLY~THERE IS SILENCE~
A FEW GOT AWAY. THE PATROL-MEN CAN ROUND THEM UP WHEN THEY GET HERE.

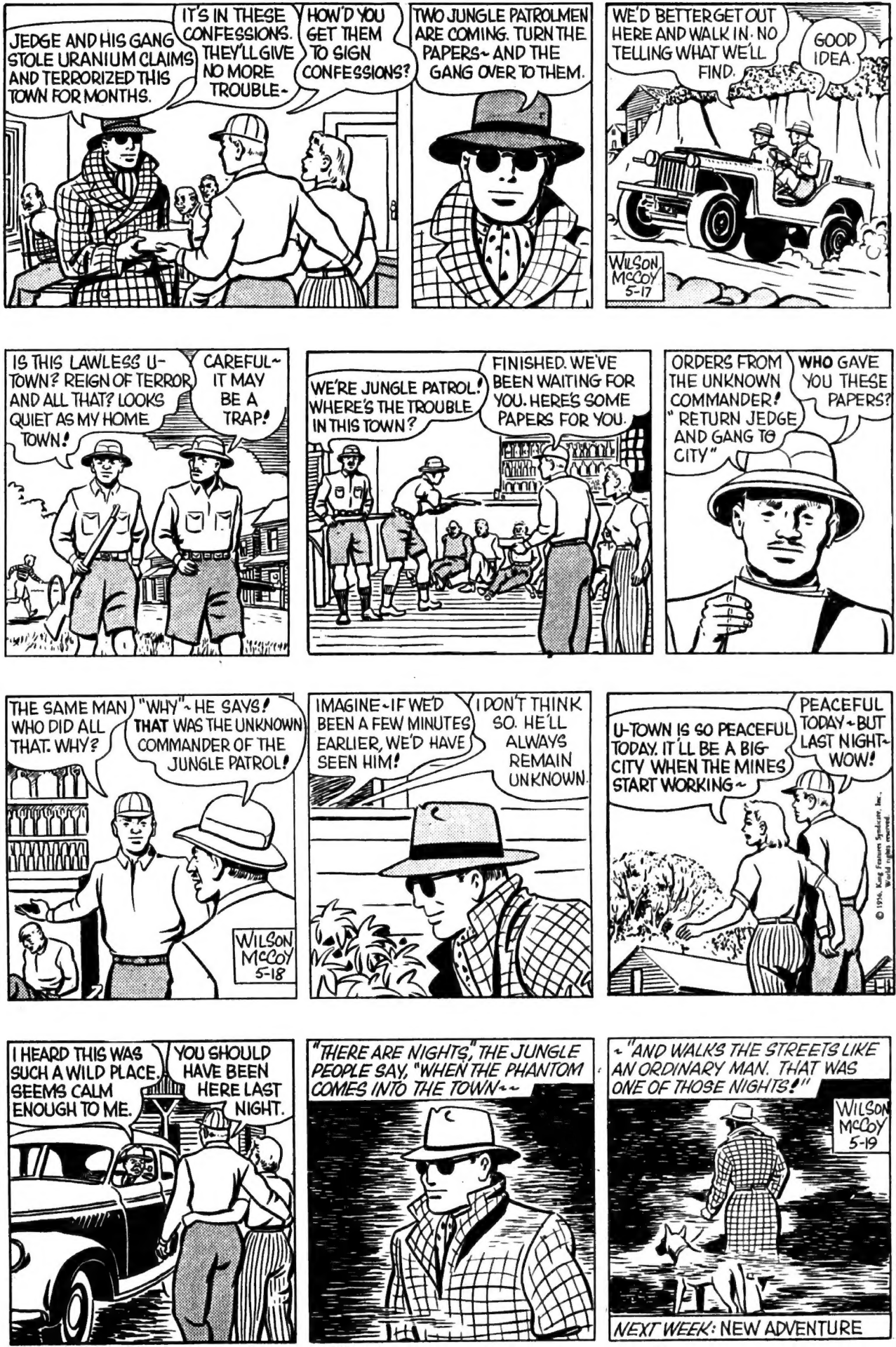
AS JEDGE AND HIS GANG SLEEP PEACEFULLY~!
WILSON McCOY 5-15

GEE, NED, I WONDER IF IT'S SAFE TO ENTER U-TOWN?
THE THUGS DISAPPEARED. GOLLY, IT SEEMS SO PEACEFUL HERE.

LOOK~ALL OF THE GANG~TIED UP~~ SOMEONE'S BEEN BUSY HERE!
I THINK I KNOW WHO!
WILSON McCOY 5-16

THE HONEYMOONERS! WELCOME BACK TO U-TOWN. YOU'RE JUST IN TIME. MIND COMING IN HERE?

THESE THREE ARE THE LEADERS OF THE GANG. THEY'VE ALL SIGNED CONFESSIONS.
YOU DID ALL THIS?


JEDGE AND HIS GANG STOLE URANIUM CLAIMS AND TERRORIZED THIS TOWN FOR MONTHS.
IT'S IN THESE CONFESSIONS. THEY'LL GIVE NO MORE TROUBLE~
HOW'D YOU GET THEM TO SIGN CONFESSIONS?
TWO JUNGLE PATROLMEN ARE COMING. TURN THE PAPERS~ AND THE GANG OVER TO THEM.
WE'D BETTER GET OUT HERE AND WALK IN. NO TELLING WHAT WE'LL FIND.
GOOD IDEA.
WILSON McCOY 5-17
IS THIS LAWLESS U-TOWN? REIGN OF TERROR AND ALL THAT? LOOKS QUIET AS MY HOME TOWN!
CAREFUL~ IT MAY BE A TRAP!
WE'RE JUNGLE PATROL! WHERE'S THE TROUBLE IN THIS TOWN?
FINISHED. WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU. HERE'S SOME PAPERS FOR YOU.
ORDERS FROM THE UNKNOWN COMMANDER! "RETURN JEDGE AND GANG TO CITY"
WHO GAVE YOU THESE PAPERS?
THE SAME MAN WHO DID ALL THAT. WHY?
"WHY"~ HE SAYS! THAT WAS THE UNKNOWN COMMANDER OF THE JUNGLE PATROL!
WILSON McCOY 5-18
IMAGINE~ IF WE'D BEEN A FEW MINUTES EARLIER, WE'D HAVE SEEN HIM!
I DON'T THINK SO. HE'LL ALWAYS REMAIN UNKNOWN.
U-TOWN IS SO PEACEFUL TODAY. IT'LL BE A BIG CITY WHEN THE MINES START WORKING~
PEACEFUL TODAY~ BUT LAST NIGHT~ WOW!
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I HEARD THIS WAS SUCH A WILD PLACE. SEEMS CALM ENOUGH TO ME.
YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE LAST NIGHT.
"THERE ARE NIGHTS," THE JUNGLE PEOPLE SAY, "WHEN THE PHANTOM COMES INTO THE TOWN~~
~"AND WALKS THE STREETS LIKE AN ORDINARY MAN. THAT WAS ONE OF THOSE NIGHTS!"
WILSON McCOY 5-19
NEXT WEEK: NEW ADVENTURE